

Abstract

An apparatus and method for disassembling a container having sections joined at sealed thermoplastic joining surfaces, such as toner cartridges, by cutting between the joined sections with a computer controlled laser beam, and the disassembled product of the method and apparatus that is suitable to be remanufactured and reassembled. The technique may be applied to other articles besides toner cartridges, such as inkjet cartridges, any container that must be opened with precision to preserve the container for reuse or to avoid damage of internal components.

It is emphasized that this abstract is provided to comply with the rules requiring an abstract that will allow a searcher or other reader to quickly ascertain the subject matter of the technical disclosure. It is submitted with the understanding that it will not be used to interpret or limit the scope or meaning of the claims.